

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/665,035

Applicant(s)

GADAGKAR ET AL.

Examiner

Joseph R Maniwang

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**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 02/04/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-10, 12-15, 18-22 and 25-27.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 11/21/04 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

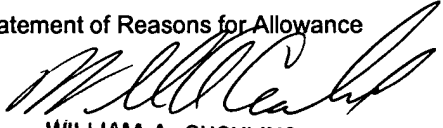
5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 021605.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

  
WILLIAM A. CUCHLINSKI, JR.  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2400

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Bill Schaal on 02/16/05.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

#### **Claims:**

Claim 15:

A method comprising:

determining whether a port of a networking device is a tag-only port;

allowing membership of the port to a first virtual local area network (VLAN) if the selected port is a tag-only port;

determining whether a predetermined policy followed by the first VLAN is supported by the port;

disallowing membership of the port to the first VLAN if the port fails to support the predetermined policy and the selected port is a member of a second VLAN following the predetermined policy;

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allowing membership of the port to the first VLAN if the port supports the predetermined policy and the port is not a member of the second VLAN following the predetermined policy;

determining whether a change of a tagging option of the port is requested;

allowing the change in the tagging option from an untagged state to a tagged state; and

disallowing the change in the tagging option if the change in the tagging option is from the tagged state to the untagged state and the port is a member of a second VLAN following the predetermined policy.

Claim 18:

A method comprising:

determining whether a predetermined policy followed by a first virtual local area network (VLAN) is supported by a port of a networking device;

determining whether a change of a filter option of the port is requested; and

disallowing the change in the filtering option if (i) the change in the filtering option is from a "Do Filter" state to a "Do Not Filter" state, (ii) the port is a member of the first VLAN having a policy that fails to support untagged frames, and (iii) the port is a member of a second VLAN following the predetermined policy;

disallowing the port membership to the first VLAN if the port fails to support the predetermined policy and the ~~selected~~ port is a member of a second VLAN following the predetermined policy; and

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allowing the port membership to the first VLAN if the port supports the predetermined policy and the ~~selected~~ port is not a member of the second VLAN following the predetermined policy.

Claim 27:

The method of claim 12 further comprising:

disallowing membership of the port to the first VLAN if the port fails to support the predetermined policy and the port is a member of a second VLAN following the predetermined policy; and

allowing membership of the port to the first VLAN if the port supports the predetermined policy and the ~~selected~~ port is not a member of the second VLAN following the predetermined policy.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
5. The provision for determining whether a policy followed by a first virtual local area network (VLAN) is supported by a port of a networking device, disallowing the port membership to the first VLAN if the port fails to support the policy, allowing the port membership to the first VLAN if the port fails to support the policy and the port constitutes a tag-only port, and disallowing the port membership to the first VLAN if the port supports the policy and is a current member of a second VLAN following the policy

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is not fairly taught or suggested by the prior art of record. Support for this functionality can be found in the Specification p. 6, line 18 through p. 7, line 21 and Fig. 3.

6. Determining whether a policy followed by a first VLAN is supported by a port of a networking device, disallowing the port membership to the first VLAN if the port fails to support the policy, allowing the port membership to the first VLAN if the port fails to support the policy and the port constitutes a tag-only port, determining whether a change of a tagging option of the port is requested, allowing the change in tagging option from an untagged state to a tagged state, and disallowing the change in tagging option if the change in the tagging option is from the tagged state to the untagged state and the port is a member of a second VLAN following the policy is not fairly taught or suggested by the prior art of record. Support for this functionality can be found in the Specification p. 7, line 22 through p. 8, line 9 and Fig. 4.

7. Determining whether a policy followed by a first VLAN is supported by a port of a networking device, disallowing the port membership to the first VLAN if the port fails to support the policy, allowing the port membership to the first VLAN if the port fails to support the policy and the port constitutes a tag-only port, determining whether a change of a filtering option of the port is requested, allowing the change in the filtering option from a "Do Not Filter" state to a "Do Filter" state, and disallowing the change in the filtering option if the change in the filtering option is from the "Do Filter" state to the "Do Not Filter" state and the port is a member of a second VLAN following the policy is not fairly taught or suggested by the prior art of record. Determining whether a policy followed by a first VLAN is supported by a port of a networking device, determining

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whether a change of a filter option of the port is requested, and disallowing the change in the filtering option if the change is from a "Do Filter" state to a "Do Not Filter" state, the port is a member of the first VLAN having a policy that fails to support untagged frames, the port is a member of a second VLAN following the policy, disallowing the port membership to the first VLAN if the port fails to support the policy and the port is a member of a second VLAN following the policy, and allowing the port membership to the first VLAN if the port supports the policy and the port is not a member of the second VLAN following the policy is not fairly taught or suggested by the prior art of record. Support for this functionality can be found in the Specification p. 8, lines 10-23 and Fig. 5.

8. The provision for determining whether a port of a networking device is a tag-only port, allowing membership of the port to a first VLAN if the port is a tag-only port, determining whether a policy followed by the first VLAN is supported by the port, and disallowing membership of the port to the first VLAN if the port supports the policy and the port is a member of a second VLAN following the policy is not fairly taught or suggested by the prior art of record. Support for this functionality can be found in the Specification p. 8, line 24 through p. 9, line 15 and Fig. 6.

9. Determining whether a port of a networking device is a tag-only port, allowing membership of the port to a first VLAN if the port is a tag-only port, determining whether a policy followed by the first VLAN is supported by the port, disallowing membership of the port to the first VLAN if the port supports the policy and the port is a member of a second VLAN following the policy, allowing membership of the port to the first VLAN if

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the port supports the predetermined policy and the port is not a member of the second VLAN following the policy, determining whether a change of a tagging option of the port is requested, allowing the change in tagging option from an untagged state to a tagged state, and disallowing the change in tagging option if the change is from the tagged state to the untagged state and the port is a member of a second VLAN following the policy is not fairly taught or suggested by the prior art of record. Support for this functionality can be found in the Specification p. 9, line 16 through p. 10, line 2 and Fig. 7.

10. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph R Maniwang whose telephone number is (571) 272-3928. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William A Cuchlinski can be reached on (571) 272-3925. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JM



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